Closing down or Privatisation of Defence Production Units

1570. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minitser of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to close down, some defence production units in the country;

(b) whether Government also propose to privatise some defence production units; and

(c) if so, th details thereof and location of such units which are proposed to be close down or privatised;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Privatisation really means handing over the ownership to the private sector. There is no proposal to hand over the ownership of any defence production unit to the private sector.

(c) Does not arise in view of reply to parts (a) and (b) above.

A. I. R. Coverage of Orissa

1572. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

a) the total population of Orissa covered under All India Radio network so far;

(b) what are the details of the uncovered areas in that State; and

(c) the steps taken to expand Radio network to those areas?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) Radio service is at present aavilable to about 2.27 crores of population in the State of Orissa.

(b) Parts of Kalahandi, Koraput, Bolangir, Phulbani, Dhenkal, Sundergarh and Keonjhar districts, measuring approximately 32700 Sq. Kms. in area, remain uncovered by reliable radio signals.

(c) Steps have been taken to establish in the State three local radio stations, one each at Rourkela, Bolangir and Berhampur, a new radio station with 200 KW MW transmitter at Bhavanipatna and to upgrade the existing 20 KW MW transmitter at Jeypore to 100 KW MW power.

Promotion of SC and ST Employees

1573. SHRI SARADA MOHANTY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the Judgement delivered on 1st April, 1991 by the Supreme Cour of India in a Civil Writ Petition No. 847|87 whereby the SC|ST employees of Government of India have been retrospectively made eligible for promotion to and from class I posts against the quota to be reserved for them for promotion; if so, the detals thereof; and

(b) the steps proposed to be taken by Government to implement the operative part of the judgement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SMT. MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b) A Statement is enclosed.

Statement

The Supreme Court had in Writ Petition 847|87 filed by the Syndicate Bank SC|ST Employees' Association Vs. Union of India given a verdict on 10-8-1990 that reservation is applicable in promotions by selection within the officers cadre, covering upto Scale —VII of the Bank. As Government instructions on this regard do not provide for reservation, Government were not fully satisfied with

the verdict, and had filed a Review Petition explaining the Government's policy in detail. After considering the Review Petition, Hon'ble Supreme Court while dismissing it on April 1, 1991 made the following observations.

"We have decided the matter on the basis of the material made available to us at the time of arguments and on the basis of contentions made by counsel representing the respective parties. The case as such was decided on the peculiar facts, and circumstances of the case and in case such controversy arises in future of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes employees of other banks, in our view the parties will be free to get the controversy decided by a proper forum by placing their respective stands."

The judgement of the Supreme Court in the Writ Petition 847/87 is, therefore, applicable only in respect of the SC|ST employees in the Syndicate Bank. The Bank concerned has reported that it has taken steps to implement the judgement of the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

Door step Delivery system

1574. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States where Door step Delivery system of the items which are being issued through FPS and other essential commodities have been introduced;

(b) whether it is a fact that the cost of the Door step Delivery system is being borne by the Central Government; and

(c) if not the steps taken in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) As per information available in the Ministry of Civil Supplies and Public Distribution only a few States|UTs. like Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Lakshadweep, Delhi, Assam and Chandigarh have introduced, in some form or the other and in some States partly, the system of delivery of essential commodities to the door steps of Fair Price Shops (FPSs).

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The Central Government has been advising the State Governments and UT Administrations with whom the implementation of the PDS primarily rests, to introduce a system of door step delivery to ensure an effective reach of PDS items, specially, in far-flung, remote and inaccessible areas.

Steel Imported by Mazagaon Dock Limited

1575. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 35 thousand Metric Tonnes of steel has been imported against the actual requirement of 15 thousand MT of Steel by the authorities of Mazagaon Dock Ltd. for ship building in the year 1989-90;

(b) whether it is a fact that the surplus steel is being disposed off at throw-away prices by Mazagon Dock Ltd.; and

(c) if so, what is Government's action in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.